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NFAC #

Executive Registry

78-3355

23 OCT 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Secretary of Defense,  
20 October 1978

4. The Secretary requested a Community assessment of the changing trends in the Far East, and what impact they may have on U.S. policy. He feels that next to the Middle East the Soviets may feel that trends are going against them more in the Far East than anywhere else: the choice of the PRC; the warming between the PRC and the U.S.; the PRC's moves to have greater influence in the rest of the world. He wonders if we shouldn't look at other issues such as the impact of our withdrawal of forces from Korea and the Chinese predominant influence in North Korea; how the PRC is going to increase its military strength and whether the Soviets are going to be able to effect a virtual world embargo on sales to China; whether under these circumstances of having chosen China over the Soviet Union, [redacted] what the impact of Teng's hurried push to establish his policies before he passes from the scene is going to be and whether Hua will follow through; [redacted]

[redacted] In short, we ought to update the prospects for U.S. policy in the Far East. It sounds like a sizeable undertaking but one I would certainly think is worthwhile.

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10. I talked about the IISS and their desire to get a contribution from the U.S. Government for their new permanent headquarters. He had already been approached by many others; he doesn't feel he can do it with contingency funds. The only other alternative is to go to the Congress. He is willing to do that but is confident we would lose. I told Secretary Duncan we would be pleased to support him on his trip and had made arrangements to talk with Linc Faurer at all his stops.

[REDACTED]  
STANSFIELD TURNER  
Director [REDACTED]

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